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EXAMINER

VO, HUYEN X

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2655

DATE MAILED: 06/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/990,764

Applicant(s)

HINDE ET AL.

Examiner

Huyen X Vo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 April 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24, 28-57 and 61-67 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24, 28-57, 61-65, and 67 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 66 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on 4/4/2005, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A new ground of rejection is set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claim 66 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Allinger (DE 19747745) discloses an electronic tour guide system for use in a museum that includes a portable device worn by visitor. The electronic tour guide system determines the location of the visitor within the museum and plays voice services associated to the determined location to the users via audio output port on the portable device worn by the visitor (*see figure 1 and/or referring*

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to Allinger). Allinger, however, fails to specifically disclose a short-range-communications arrangement comprising complimentary elements at the local entity and in user-carried equipment for establishing a short range link between the user-carried equipment and said controllable functionality, the user-carried equipment being arranged receive said control data from the voice service arrangement in the course of the latter acting as a voice proxy for the local entity, and to pass on the control data via said short-range communication arrangement said controllable functionality. Furthermore, it would have not been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Allinger to obtain the claimed invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-2, 4, 6-12, 20-24, 28, 30-33, 35-44, 52-57, 61, 63-65, and 67 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allinger (DE 19747745) in view of Lowe et al. (US 5052685).

5. Regarding claim 1, Allinger discloses a system for enabling verbal communication on behalf of a local entity with a nearby user, the system comprising: a

location determining arrangement for determining the location of the user (*position finding system 7 in figure 1*); a comparison arrangement for comparing the location of the user with the known locations of entities having associated voice services (*inherently included in the system in order to determine the location of the user and associated voice services*), these voice services being separately hosted from the entities themselves (*page 6, lines 13-32*); a communications infrastructure (*figure 1, specifically elements 4-7 and 9*); an audio output arrangement operatively connected to the communication infrastructure and either forming part of equipment carried by the user or located in the locality of said local entity (*communication unit 4 in figure 1 worn by the users*); a voice service arrangement for providing said voice service, the voice service arrangement being connected to said communications infrastructure (*Control system 9 in figure 1*); and a service initiation arrangement, responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to initiate, automatically or under user control, voice service delivery by the voice service arrangement via the communications infrastructure and the audio output arrangement with the voice service acting as voice proxy for the local entity (*page 5 line 33 to page 6 lines 13-39*); the audio output arrangement comprising multiple sound output devices spaced from the local entity (*communication unit 4 in figure 1 worn by the users*).

Allinger fails to specifically disclose a controller for controlling their excitation such that voice output from the voice service appears to the user to emanate from the location of said local entity independently of the user's position and head orientation relative to the entity. However, Lowe et al. disclose a controller for controlling their

excitation such that voice output from the voice service appears to the user to emanate from the location of said local entity independently of the user's position and head orientation relative to the entity (*see abstract*).

Since Allinger and Lowe et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Lowe et al. in order to provide users sound effects that make video game more interesting.

6. Regarding claim 33, Allinger discloses a voice-proxy method wherein: (a) the location of a user is determined and compared with the known locations of entities that have associated voice services, separately hosted from the entities themselves (*the step of comparing is inherently included in the system in order to determine the location of the user and associated voice services, pages 5-6*); (b) upon the user being determined to be close to a said entity, contact is initiated between the user and the voice service associated with this local entity (*pages 5-6*); and (c) the user interacts with the voice service with the latter acting as voice proxy for the local entity, voice output from the service being through audio output devices spaced from the local entity (*communication unit 4 in figure 1 worn by the users*).

Allinger fails to specifically disclose a controller for controlling their excitation such that voice output from the voice service appears to the user to emanate from the location of said local entity independently of the user's position and head orientation relative to the entity. However, Lowe et al. disclose a controller for controlling their

excitation such that voice output from the voice service appears to the user to emanate from the location of said local entity independently of the user's position and head orientation relative to the entity (*see abstract*).

Since Allinger and Lowe et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Lowe et al. in order to provide users sound effects that make video game more interesting.

7. Regarding claim 2, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 1, wherein the comparison arrangement is separate from any equipment carried by the user (*page 6, line 13-32, processing in the control system 9*), the service initiation arrangement comprising: an arrangement responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to send contact data for the voice service to the user (*page 6, line 13-32*); and an arrangement, provided in user equipment intended carried by the user, for receiving the contact data and for enabling the user to contact the voice service arrangement using the contact data in order to initiate voice service delivery (*device 4 worn by the user*).

8. Regarding claim 4, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 1, further comprising user equipment adapted to communicate with the communications infrastructure over wireless arrangement, the comparison arrangement being separate from the user equipment and the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the

comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the user equipment to the voice service arrangement to enable the latter to initiate contact with the user over the communications infrastructure (*pages 5-6*).

9. Regarding claim 6, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 1, further comprising audio input arrangement operatively connected to the communications infrastructure and either forming part of equipment carried by the user, or located in the locality of said local entity, the audio input and output arrangement together enabling a user to interact with the voice service through spoken dialog with voice input by the user through the audio input arrangement and voice output to the user through the audio output arrangement (*page 3, lines 1-39*).

10. Regarding claim 7, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 6, wherein in said dialog the entity is represented in first person terms through the voice service (*page 7*).

11. Regarding claim 8, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 6, wherein both the audio input and output arrangement form part of the user equipment carried by the user, the user equipment being operative to exchange said voice input and voice output with the voice service as voice signals passed across the communications infrastructure (*page 3, lines 1-39*).

12. Regarding claim 9, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 6, wherein both the audio input and output arrangement are located in the locality of said entity apart from the user equipment, the voice service arrangement being operative to exchange said voice input and voice output with the audio input and output devices as voice signals passed across the communications infrastructure (*page 1, lines 3-12, speakers located at the entity*).

13. Regarding claim 10, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 6, wherein the audio input arrangement forms part of equipment carried by the user (*element 6 in figure 1*) and the audio output arrangement is located in the locality of said entity apart from the user equipment (*page 1, lines 3-12, speaker located at the entity*), the voice service arrangement being arranged to exchange said voice input and voice output with the audio input and output devices as voice signals across the communications infrastructure (*figure 1*).

14. Regarding claim 11, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 1, wherein said multiple sound output devices are headphones worn by the user, the controller of the audio output arrangement being arranged to control excitation of the headphones being controlled to take account of the relative positions of the user and entity and rotation of the user's head (*page 6*).

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15. Regarding claim 12, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 1, wherein said multiple sound output devices are loudspeakers associated with the locality of the entity rather than with the user and connected with the voice service through a communications infrastructure (*page 1, lines 3-12, speaker located at the entity*), the controller of the audio output arrangement being arranged to control excitation of the loudspeakers dependence on the relative positions of the user and entity (*page 6*).

16. Regarding claims 20 and 52, Allinger further discloses a system and method according to claims 1 and 33, wherein the communications infrastructure is a proprietary-space local wireless network hosting the voice service arrangement, the local entity being located in the proprietary-space concerned (*figure 1, elements 4-7 and 9-11, wireless communication*).

17. Regarding claims 21 and 53, Allinger further discloses a system and method according to claims 8 and 52, wherein the communications infrastructure is a proprietary-space local wireless network hosting the voice service arrangement, the local entity being located in the proprietary-space concerned and the user equipment comprising a wireless headset (*figure 1*).

18. Regarding claim 22, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 20, wherein said audio output arrangement comprises headphones worn by the user, the

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controller of the audio output arrangement being arranged to control excitation of the headphones to take account of the relative positions of the user and entity and rotations of the user's head (*page 1, lines 1-12 and page 5, line 33 to page 6, line 5. The headphone is located at the entity*).

19. Regarding claim 23, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 1, wherein the location determining arrangement and the comparison arrangement are arranged to operate on an on-going basis (*page 5*).

20. Regarding claim 28, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 1, further comprising controllable functionality associated with the local entity and arranged to be controlled by control data passed to it from the voice service to operate in coordination with the voice output (*page 1, lines 1-12*).

21. Regarding claim 30, Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 1, further comprising arrangement for determining the orientation of the local entity as perceived from the user's current location, the voice service being operative to condition its voice output in dependence on the user's determined position (*figure 1 and pg. 5-6*).

22. Regarding claims 31 and 64, Allinger further discloses an arrangement for determining the orientation of the user relative to the entity, the voice service being

operative to condition its output in dependence on the user's sensed orientation (*figure 1 and pages 5-6*).

23. Regarding claims 32 and 65, Allinger further discloses an arrangement for determining the line of approach or departure of the user relative to the entity, the voice service being operative to condition its voice output in dependence on the user's line of approach or departure (*pages 5-6*).

24. Regarding claim 35, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein (a) is effected by a service system separate from any equipment carried by the user (*figure 1*), the service system upon determining that the user is close to a said entity, effecting (b) by passing contact data for the voice service to a voice browser of the service system or communications infrastructure whereby to enable the voice browser to contact the voice service on behalf of the user (*pages 5-6, specifically the operation of the control system 9*).

25. Regarding claim 36, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein (a) is effected by a service system separate from any equipment carried by the user (*figure 1*), the service system upon determining that the user is close to a said entity, effecting (b) by passing user contact information to the voice service whereby to enable the latter to initiate contact with the user (*pages 5-6*).

26. Regarding claim 37, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein (a) is effected by equipment carried by the user which, upon determining that the user is close to a said entity, effects (b) by contacting the voice service (*pages 5-6*).

27. Regarding claims 38-39, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein in (c) the user and voice service interact through spoken dialog with both voice input by the user and voice output by the service (*page 3*), wherein in said dialog the entity is represented in first person terms through the voice service (*page 7*).

28. Regarding claim 40, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein (c) involves voice input by the user and voice output by the service with both voice input and voice output being carried across the wireless network between the voice service and sound input and output devices forming part of the user's equipment (*page 3 and figure 1*).

29. Regarding claim 41, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein (c) involves voice input by the user and voice output by the service with both voice input and voice output being exchanged with the user by local sound input and output devices that are associated with the locality of the entity rather than with the user and are connected with the voice service through a communications infrastructure (*page 1, lines 1-12, the headphones are located at entities*).

30. Regarding claim 42, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein (c) involves voice input by the user and voice output by the service, voice input being carried across the wireless network to the voice service from a sound input device forming part of the user's equipment (*figure 1*), and voice output being through at least one local sound output device that is associated with the locality of the entity rather than with the user and is connected with the voice service through a communications infrastructure (*page 1, lines 1-12, the headphones are located at entities*).

31. Regarding claim 43, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein said multiple sound output devices are headphones worn by the user, excitation of the headphones being controlled to take account of the relative positions of the user and entity and rotations of the user's head (*figure 1 and pages 5-6*).

32. Regarding claim 44, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein said multiple sound output devices are loudspeakers associated with the locality of the entity rather than with the user and connected with the voice service through the communications infrastructure, excitation of the loudspeakers being controlled in dependence on the relative positions of the user and entity (*pg. 1 and 5-6*).

33. Regarding claims 54-55, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein the carrying out of (b) is subject to user approval at the time (*page 7*), and

the location determination and comparison with the known location of entities having associated voice services, is effected in step (a) on an on-going basis (*page 5*).

34. Regarding claim 57, Alligner further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein in (b) the identity of the user is sent to the voice service and used by the latter to look up user profile data which is then used to customize the voice service to the user (*pages 5-6, the "learning system" is responsible for building and updating user's profile*).

35. Regarding claim 61, Alligner further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein the local entity has associated controllable functionality that is controlled by control data passed to it from the voice service to operate in coordination with the voice output (*page 1, lines 1-12*).

36. Regarding claim 67, Allinger further disclose a method according claim 61, wherein the control data is passed to said controllable functionality over short range communication link established between said functionality and equipment carried by the user (*figure 1, short-range communication*).

37. Regarding claim 63, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein the voice output provided from the service in (c) is dependent on the orientation of the local entity as perceived from the user's current location (*pages 5-6*).

38. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allinger (DE Patent No. 19747745) in view of Lowe et al. (US 5052685), as applied to claim 1, and further in view of Jamison et al. (US Patent No. 6085148).

39. Regarding claim 5, the modified Allinger fails to specifically disclose a system according to claim 1, further comprising user equipment adapted to communicate with the communications infrastructure over wireless arrangement, at least the comparison arrangement and the service initiation arrangement being provided in the user equipment, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to contact the voice service arrangement over the communications infrastructure.

However, Jamison et al. teach that the user equipment is adapted to communicate with the communications infrastructure over wireless arrangement, at least the comparison arrangement and the service initiation arrangement being provided in the user equipment, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to contact the voice service arrangement over the communications infrastructure (*fig 2 or col. 5-6*).

Since the modified Allinger and Jamison et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Jamison et al. in order to reduce processing load at the control system.

40. Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allinger (DE Patent No. 19747745), in view of Lowe et al. (US 5052685), as applied to claim 33, and further in view of Albukerk et al. (US Patent No. 5929848).

41. Regarding claim 34, Allinger further discloses a method according to claim 33, wherein (a) is effected by a service system separate from any equipment carried by the user (*figure 1*); the service system upon determining that the user is close to a said entity (*pages 5-6*). Allinger fails to specifically disclose that if the user is close to the entity, effecting (b) by passing contact data for the voice service to the user whereby to enable the user to contact the voice service. However, Albukerk et al. teach that if the user is close to the entity, effecting step (b) by passing contact data for the voice service to the user whereby to enable the user to contact the voice service (*col. 8, lines 1-46*).

Since Allinger and Albukerk et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Albukerk et al. in order to enable the user to select and retrieve information about the object of interest for viewing or playing.

42. Claims 3, 13-19 and 45-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allinger (DE 19747745), in view of Lowe et al. (US 5052685), as applied to claims 1, 6, 8, and 33, and further in view of Scott et al. (WO 00/30329).

43. Regarding claim 3, the modified Allinger further discloses a system according to claim 1, wherein the comparison arrangement is separate from any equipment carried by the user and the voice service arrangement comprises storage arrangement for storing voice service content (*as discussed in claim 1 above*). The modified Allinger fails to specifically disclose a voice browser for interpreting voice service content in respect of multiple different voice services for which content is stored by the storage arrangement, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the corresponding voice service to the voice browser of the voice service arrangement.

However, Scott et al. further teach a voice browser for interpreting voice service content in respect of multiple different voice services for which content is stored by the storage arrangement, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the corresponding voice service to the voice browser of the voice service arrangement (*the functionality of IVR Unit in figure 1*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order to provide audible responses to user and at the same time maximizing storing space in the database by storing text data.

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44. Regarding claim 13, Allinger further discloses a speech recognizer for carrying out speech recognition of user voice input received as voice signals (*page 6*), but fails to disclose a system according to claims 6 and 8, wherein the voice service arrangement comprises: a voice page server for serving voice pages in the form of text with embedded voice markup tags; and a voice browser comprising: a dialog manager for effecting dialog control on the basis of output from the speech recognizer and pages served by the voice page server; and a text-to-speech converter operative to convert voice pages into voice output signals under the control of the dialog manager.

However, Scott et al. teach a voice page server for serving voice pages in the form of text with embedded voice markup tags; and a voice browser comprising: a dialog manager for effecting dialog control on the basis of output from the speech recognizer and pages served by the voice page server; and a text-to-speech converter operative to convert voice pages into voice output signals under the control of the dialog manager (*the functionality of IVR Unit in figures 1-2 or referring to pages 4-6*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order to provide audible responses to user and at the same time maximizing storing space in the database by storing text data.

45. Regarding claim 14, the modified Allinger fails to specifically disclose a system according to claim 8, wherein the user equipment comprises a mobile phone providing

the said audio input and output arrangement, with wireless communication arrangement of the mobile phone serving for the transfer of voice service input and output to and from the said audio input and output arrangement. However, Scott et al. further teach the user equipment comprises a mobile phone providing the said audio input and output arrangement, with wireless communication arrangement of the mobile phone serving for the transfer of voice service input and output to and from the said audio input and output arrangement (*Caller 4 device in figure 1*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order to provide conveniences for the user.

46. Regarding claim 15, Allinger further discloses a speech recognizer for carrying out speech recognition of user voice input received as voice signals (*page 6*), but fails to specifically disclose a system according to claim 8, wherein the voice service arrangement comprises: a voice page server for serving voice pages in the form of text with embedded voice markup tags; and a voice browser comprising: a dialog manager for effecting dialog control on the basis of output from the speech recognizer and pages served by the voice page server; and a text-to-speech converter operative to convert voice pages into voice output signals under the control of the dialog manager; the user equipment comprising a mobile phone providing said audio input and output arrangement, with wireless communication arrangement of the mobile phone serving for

the transfer of voice service input and output to and from the said audio input and output arrangement.

However, Scott et al. further teach a voice page server for serving voice pages in the form of text with embedded voice markup tags; and a voice browser comprising: a dialog manager for effecting dialog control on the basis of output from the speech recognizer and pages served by the voice page server; and a text-to-speech converter operative to convert voice pages into voice output signals under the control of the dialog manager; the user equipment comprising a mobile phone providing said audio input and output arrangement, with wireless communication arrangement of the mobile phone serving for the transfer of voice service input and output to and from the said audio input and output arrangement (*the functionality of IVR Unit in figures 1-2 or pages 4-6*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order to provide audible responses to user and at the same time maximizing storing space in the database by storing text data.

47. Regarding claim 45, the modified Allinger fails to specifically disclose a method according to claim 33, wherein the voice service is effected by the serving of voice pages in the form of text with embedded voice markup tags to a voice browser, the voice browser interpreting these pages and carrying out speech recognition of user voice input, text to speech conversion to generate voice output, and dialog

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management; the voice browser being disposed between a voice page server and the user. However, Scott et al. teach that the voice service is effected by the serving of voice pages in the form of text with embedded voice markup tags to a voice browser, the voice browser interpreting these pages and carrying out speech recognition of user voice input, text to speech conversion to generate voice output, and dialog management; the voice browser being disposed between a voice page server and the user (*IVR Unit in figure 1*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order to provide audible responses to user and at the same time maximizing storing space in the database by storing text data.

48. Regarding claim 46, the modified Allinger fails to specifically disclose a method according to claim 33, wherein the user equipment includes a mobile phone, (c) involving use of the mobile phone to transfer voice service input and output to and from the user. However, Scott et al. teach that the user equipment includes a mobile phone, step (c) involving use of the mobile phone to transfer voice service input and output to and from the user (*caller 4 in fig. 1*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in

the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order to provide conveniences for the user.

49. Regarding claim 47, Allinger further discloses a speech recognition step for recognizing the user voice input (*page 6*), but fails to specifically disclose a method according to claim 33, wherein: the voice service is effected by the serving of voice pages in the form of text with embedded voice markup tags to a voice browser, the voice browser interpreting these pages and carrying out speech recognition of user voice input, text to speech conversion to generate voice output, and dialog management; the voice browser being disposed between a voice page server and the user; and the user has equipment including a mobile phone, step (c) involving use of the mobile phone to transfer voice service input and output to and from the user.

However, Scott et al. further teach that the voice service is effected by the serving of voice pages in the form of text with embedded voice markup tags to a voice browser, the voice browser interpreting these pages and carrying out speech recognition of user voice input, text to speech conversion to generate voice output, and dialog management; the voice browser being disposed between a voice page server and the user; and the user has equipment including a mobile phone, step (c) involving use of the mobile phone to transfer voice service input and output to and from the user (*the functionality of IVR in figures 1-2 or referring to pages 4-6*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in

the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order to provide audible responses to user and at the same time maximizing storing space in the database by storing text data.

50. Regarding claims 16 and 48, Allinger fails to disclose that the voice browser is not part of the user's equipment, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the voice service, in the form of a URL, to the user's equipment, the user equipment being operative to pass the contact data to the voice browser via a data-capable bearer circuit set up by the mobile phone through the communications infrastructure, and the voice browser being operative to use the contact data to contact the voice page server and being further operative to establish a voice circuit with the mobile phone for the exchange of voice input and/or output between the user and voice browser.

However, Scott et al. further teach that the voice browser is not part of the user's equipment, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the voice service, in the form of a URL, to the user's equipment, the user equipment being operative to pass the contact data to the voice browser via a data-capable bearer circuit set up by the mobile phone through the communications infrastructure, and the voice browser being operative to use the contact data to contact the voice page server and being further operative to establish a voice circuit with the mobile phone for the

exchange of voice input and/or output between the user and voice browser (*the operation in figure 1*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order for the system to communicate with the user to better assist them learn more about the exhibit by both audible and visual responses.

51. Regarding claims 17 and 49, Allinger fails to disclose a system and method according to claims 15 and 48, wherein the voice browser is not part of the user's equipment, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the voice service, in the form of a URL, to the user's equipment, the user equipment being operative to pass the contact data to the voice browser via a data-capable bearer circuit set up by the mobile phone through the communications infrastructure, and the voice browser being operative to use the contact data to access the voice page server and to thereafter use the data-capable bearer circuit for voice input and/or output between the user and voice browser using a packetized voice protocol.

However, Scott et al. further teach that the voice browser is not part of the user's equipment, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the voice service, in the form of a URL, to the user's equipment, the user equipment

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being operative to pass the contact data to the voice browser via a data-capable bearer circuit set up by the mobile phone through the communications infrastructure, and the voice browser being operative to use the contact data to access the voice page server and to thereafter use the data-capable bearer circuit for voice input and/or output between the user and voice browser using a packetized voice protocol (*the operation in figure 1*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order for the system to communicate with the user to better assist them learn more about the exhibit by both audible and visual responses.

52. Regarding claims 18 and 50, Allinger fails to disclose a system and method according to claims 15 and 48, wherein the voice browser is part of the user's equipment, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the voice service, in the form of a URL, to the user's equipment, the voice browser being operative to use the contact data passed to the equipment to access the voice page server via a data-capable bearer circuit set up by the mobile phone through the communications infrastructure for the exchange of text based input and/or output between the voice browser and voice page server.

However, Scott et al. further teach that the voice browser is part of the user's equipment, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the voice service, in the form of a URL, to the user's equipment, the voice browser being operative to use the contact data passed to the equipment to access the voice page server via a data-capable bearer circuit set up by the mobile phone through the communications infrastructure for the exchange of text based input and/or output between the voice browser and voice page server (*the operation in figure 1*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order for the system to communicate with the user to better assist them learn more about the exhibit by both audible and visual responses.

53. Regarding claims 19 and 51, Allinger fails to disclose a system and method according to claims 15 and 48, wherein the voice browser is not part of the user's equipment, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the voice service, in the form of a URL, directly to the voice browser together with information for contacting the user's equipment, the voice browser being arranged to contact the user on the mobile phone using a voice circuit or data connection that is then used for voice input/or and output between the user and voice browser.

However, Scott et al. further teach that the voice browser is not part of the user's equipment, the service initiation arrangement being responsive to the comparison arrangement determining that the user is close to a said entity, to pass contact data for the voice service, in the form of a URL, directly to the voice browser together with information for contacting the user's equipment, the voice browser being arranged to contact the user on the mobile phone using a voice circuit or data connection that is then used for voice input/or and output between the user and voice browser (*the operation in figure 1*).

Since the modified Allinger and Scott et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Scott et al. in order for the system to communicate with the user to better assist them learn more about the exhibit by both audible and visual responses.

54. Claims 29 and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allinger (DE 19747745), in view of Lowe et al. (US 5052685), as applied to claims 28 and 61, and further in view of Chen et al. (US Patent No. 5907351).

55. Regarding claims 29 and 62, the modified Allinger fails to specifically disclose a system and method according to claims 28 and 61, wherein the controllable functionality comprises a mouth representation device associated with the local entity and arranged

to present a mouth representation that is movable in dependence on the control data from the voice service in synchronism with voice output from the voice service.

However, Chen et al. teach that the controllable functionality comprises a mouth representation device associated with the local entity and arranged to present a mouth representation that is movable in dependence on the control data from the voice service in synchronism with voice output from the voice service. (col. 4-5).

Since the modified Allinger and Chen et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to further modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Chen et al. in order to audiovisual presentation to the user to enhance human perception of speech.

56. Claims 24 and 56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allinger (DE 19747745) in view of Lowe et al. (US 5052685), as applied to claims 1 and 33, further in view of Baker et al. (GB 2348777).

57. Regarding claims 24 and 56, Allinger fails to specifically disclose a method according to claims 1 and 33, respectively, wherein the location determining arrangement and the comparison arrangement are arranged to operate on a once-off basis as requested by the user. However, Baker et al. further teach a method according to claim 1, wherein the location determining arrangement and the comparison

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arrangement are arranged to operate on a once-off basis as requested by the user
(pages 10-11).

Since Allinger and Baker et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavors, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify Allinger by incorporating the teaching of Baker et al. in order to reduce processing power by determining the position of the user only when requested.

Conclusion

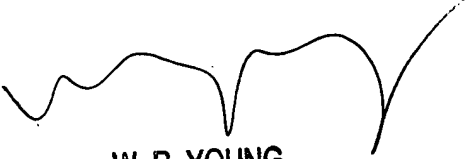
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Huyen X Vo whose telephone number is 571-272-7631. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young can be reached on 571-272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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